

## *Assistance with Medications for UAP ~ Vocabulary and Abbreviations*

Abbreviation	Meaning	Abbreviation	Meaning	Abbreviation	Meaning
<b>BID</b>	2 Times a Day	<b>TID</b>	3 Times a Day	<b>STAT</b>	Immediately
<b>HS</b>	At Bedtime	<b>D/C</b>	Discontinue	<b>PRN</b>	As Needed
<b>NPO</b>	Nothing by Mouth	<b>— q</b>	Every	<b>NKA</b>	No Known Allergies
<b>PO</b>	By Mouth	<b>mg</b>	Milligram	<b>Tbsp / tsp</b>	Tablespoon / Teaspoon
<b>OTC</b>	Over the Counter	<b>gtt</b>	Drop	<b>cc (ml)</b>	Cubic Centimeter (milliliter)
<b>— c</b>	With	<b>— s</b>	Without		

Term	Definition
<b>UAP</b>	Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAP) – Legal title of those employed to perform nursing care services under the direction and supervision of licensed nurses.
<b>Canthus</b>	The angle at either end of the slit between the eyelids.
<b>Cerumen</b>	Ear wax.
<b>Conjunctiva</b>	Mucous membrane lining covering the inner surface of eyelids and the eyeball.
<b>Discharge</b>	A drainage (liquid) that may be clear, bloody, infected, or white.
<b>Nebulizer</b>	Electrical device that turns liquid medications into a fine mist to be inhaled.
<b>Metered Dose Inhaler (PMDI)</b>	A pressurized, hand-held inhaler that delivers one dose of medication per squirt.
<b>Ear Auricle</b>	The outer or external ear.
<b>Gastric Tube (G-Tube, PEG, or Micky Button)</b>	A flexible tube surgically placed into the stomach to administer liquid food and medications.
<b>Aspirate</b>	Drawing a foreign substance into the lungs during inhalations; to remove by suction, a gas or fluid.
<b>Pathogen</b>	A microorganism that causes disease, such as a viral or bacterial infection.
<b>Infection</b>	A process cause by bacteria or a virus and may cause death.
<b>Contamination</b>	The act of transferring pathogens from one surface to another.
<b>C-diff</b>	The Clostridium Difficile (C-diff) that causes diarrhea and colitis.
<b>MRSA</b>	Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) commonly known as a staph infection is a bacterium responsible for several difficult-to-treat infections due to antibiotic resistance.

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<b>Standard Precautions</b>	Steps to prevent infections, known and unknown, from body fluids. Minimum precautions include washing hands and using gloves but may include additional PPE depending on the contaminant.
<b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b>	Gloves, gowns, masks, goggles, hair coverings, and foot coverings among other things worn to prevent the spread of infection.
<b>Vulnerable Population</b>	Those at risk of infection from a compromised immune system, such as the elderly, those with cancer, or those with HIV.
<b>Side Effect</b>	An unintended effect of a medication.
<b>Allergic Reaction</b>	A reaction to a substance (allergen) that releases histamine into the body causing symptoms that may be life threatening.
<b>Anaphylaxis (anaphylactic shock)</b>	A life threatening severe whole body allergic reaction to an allergen that can cause swelling and breathing difficulties. Can lead to death if emergency treatment is not available.
<b>Plan of Care/Care Plan (POC)</b>	A list of care needs for a person that includes the most likely medication side effects and who to call and what to do in an emergency.
<b>MARs</b>	Medication Administration Record System (MARs) where the UAP documents they assisted with medications
<b>Stable Health</b>	When the person's level of health is unlikely to change. The person does not need an assessment before or after medication administration.
<b>Lithotomy Position</b>	Patient laying on their back, knees bent, with their legs spread.
<b>Sims' Position</b>	Patient laying in semi-prone position on their left side and chest, with right knee and thigh drawn up, and the left arm along the back. This is used to expose the anal or genital area for suppository.
<b>Supine Position</b>	Patient is laying down with face up.
<b>High Fowlers's Position</b>	Patient head is raised and they are sitting up at a 80-90 degree angle.
<b>Enteric Coated</b>	A hard covering/coating over a medication tablet, allowing medication to be released when further down the digestive tract, avoiding stomach irritation.
<b>Sublingual</b>	A medication administered under the tongue
<b>Buccal</b>	A medication inserted into the cheek area.
<b>Transdermal Patch</b>	A medication that is absorbed through the skin through a patch, it may look like a large band-aid.
<b>Suppository</b>	A cone-shaped medication that is usually inserted into the rectum or vagina.